

Duerod, Lynn M LRE

From: Parzych, Edward M LRE
Sent: Friday, November 08, 2002 3:25 PM
To: Duerod, Lynn M LRE; Reilly, Lawrence L LRE
Subject: Letter to the Editor Regarding Duluth AO Project

Below is a letter to the Duluth News Tribune regarding the recent beach nourishment and geotube project the Duluth Area Office had.

From the Duluth News Tribune 08 Nov. 2002.

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Letters to the Editor

Corps of Engineers project draws praise

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has informed the Park Point Community Club that its dredge-fill project at the Superior Entry on Minnesota Point is nearly complete for the season (News Tribune, Sept. 28). Without question, they deserve praise for a well-run operation.

I was president of the community club in 1998 when a similar filling project was conducted at the same site. It didn't go as smoothly. Benefits were short-lived, damage to the surrounding area was excessive and complaints from hikers were common.

When the Corps approached us about this year's project, we raised a number of strong objections based on that previous experience. To their great credit, the Corps listened, then acted on our recommendations. Both the Duluth and Detroit offices willingly accepted our research and photos; in fact, they have requested more. They convinced us of the absolute need for the fill and altered their pipeline route and operational procedures to accommodate us.

With regard to the "geotubes" (the immense nylon sandbags installed behind the north breakwater), no one knows whether they'll stay buried or wash clear, but the Corps was honest about that, too. They didn't sweep us aside or try to bully us into submission.

We appreciate project manager Curt Anderson and his crew for the "handle with care" attitude they used, both with the unique Minnesota Point environment and with us.

*DAVE JOHNSON
DULUTH*

The writer is a member of the Park Point Community Club Environmental Committee.

